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Strengthening of collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the efforts to strengthen the coordination of geospatial information management with the Group of Experts.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/114, in which it welcomed the report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and endorsed the proposal to build a stronger relationship between the Group of Experts and the Committee to advance the cause of geographical names and geospatial information management, keeping the process technical and not political in nature. In addition, the Committee expressed support for the common principles of cooperation as a positive communication tool and a means for closer collaboration, and for the strengthening of arrangements in geospatial information management. Furthermore, the Committee recognized that the real benefits of cooperation and collaboration would need to be anchored at the national level and that it would be critical for national delegates from the Group of Experts and the Committee to establish and continue their outreach activities on an ongoing basis.

* E/C.20/2018/1.

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In its report, the Group of Experts presents its activities undertaken at the global and national levels as part of its efforts to strengthen collaboration and implement the decisions made by the Committee at its seventh session. The report includes information on the first physical meeting convened between the two Bureaux, in August 2017, the contribution of the Group of Experts to the work of the working group on global fundamental geospatial data themes, an update on the modernization of its operations, including changes to the duration and frequency of meetings, and alignment of its operations to new rules and procedures, and the preparation of its second joint Bureau meeting, in August 2018.

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